

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THIS PLAN

This Annual Performance Plan for fiscal year 2003 is based upon our five-year (2001-2005) Strategic Plan. Our Annual Performance Plan has park annual goals, which fall within three broad mission goals established for the entire National Park Service:

***P**reserve Park Resources*

***P**rovide for the Public Enjoyment and Visitor Experience of Parks*

***E**nsure Organizational Effectiveness*

Each park annual goal is results or outcome oriented -- objective, quantified, and measurable. Most of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks funding comes from the annual appropriation of tax dollars that Congress allocates the National Park Service to operate. In fiscal year 2003, our annual base budget will be \$13,161,000. Other funds, such as the portion of entrance fees that the park is permitted to keep, are also important and will be used for specific projects. These funds will be used for fiscal and human resources to achieve the desired outcomes or results.

We also develop internal management documents -- Annual Work Plans. These describe, in greater detail, the specific activities, services, and products that will be carried out or produced to accomplish planned results and list the dollars and staff (in terms of "full-time equivalents" or FTE) resources. Annual work plans and budgets guide the Parks' daily activities throughout the fiscal year.

GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS ACT OF 1993 (GPRA)

In 1993, Congress passed the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), aimed at making the federal government more accountable for how tax dollars are spent. Performance management is a goal-driven management concept and practice, embraced by private industry and many state and local governments.

GPRA requires federal agencies to develop 1) a Strategic Plan, 2) Annual Performance Plans, and 3) Annual Performance Reports in order to more effectively and efficiently manage their activities to achieve their missions, and to more effectively communicate with the Congress and the American people.

We share the Director's vision statement as we begin to implement our Annual Performance Plan for fiscal year 2003: "...We are committed to assuring that the requirements of the GPRA are met while providing a quality business system for the operation of the National Park System. Performance management is more than just a plan or a report, but provides a framework for excellence within the NPS [and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks] by identifying and measuring what is important and assuring that we are managing for results in everything that is done..."